

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 6, 2009

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SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING FOR RESEARCH

Washington, D.C. – The Spina Bifida Association (SBA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding for research through its Young Investigator Program for a fifth consecutive year. SBA will also provide research funding for work with tethered cord syndrome. This is the second year that funding has been available in this category, and the expansive opportunity that this presents for the field is an invaluable one.

SBA will award up to three (2) fellowships of \$25,000 each for the **Young Investigator Awards** in 2009. The purpose of each award will be to provide either initial or continuing financial support to a newly-independent investigator in an established research program.

SBA will also provide one (1) renewable award of \$40,000 for the **Tethered Cord Research Award** in 2009. The purpose of the award is to provide financial support to an investigator proposing research in any of the following areas as they pertain to tethered cord syndrome and Spina Bifida: normal development, pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.

The project length for each award is one year. All proposals are due April 20, 2009.

For detailed proposal requirements and more specific information on each award please visit www.spinabifidaassociation.org or call SBA at 800-621-3141.

The Spina Bifida Association is the only national voluntary health agency working for people with Spina Bifida and their families through education, advocacy, research, and service. SBA was founded in 1973 to address the needs of the Spina Bifida community and today serves as the representative of 46 chapters serving more than 125 communities nationwide. The Association is the only national organization solely dedicated to advocating on behalf of the Spina Bifida community.